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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US97/12478 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 14 July 1997 (14.07.97)  <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 08/696,281 13 August 1996 (13.08.96) US  <b>(71) Applicant:</b> THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY [US/US]; 2030 Dow Center, Midland, MI 48674 (US).  <b>(72) Inventors:</b> WU, Weishi; 5413 Tyler Street, Midland, MI 48642 (US). SHIANG, William, R.; 4408 Francis Shores, Sanford, MI 48657 (US). WOO, Edmund, P.; 300 Mayfield Lane, Midland, MI 48640 (US).  <b>(74) Agent:</b> GALBRAITH, Ann, K.; Patent Dept., P.O. Box 1967, Midland, MI 48641-1967 (US).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> JP, KR, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
<b>(54) Title:</b> POLY(ARYLAMINES) AND FILMS THEREOF  <b>(57) Abstract</b> <p>The invention relates to a poly(arylamine) composition of one or more compounds of from 5 to 1000 of monomer. The monomers useful in the preparation of poly(arylamines) comprise two amino moieties wherein each amino moiety is bound to three aryl moieties wherein two halo moieties are optionally bound to the monomer. The invention further relates to films prepared from such poly(arylamines), as well as electrophotographic devices and electroluminescent devices containing such films, such as polymeric light-emitting diodes. The invention also relates to processes for the preparation of poly(arylamines). The polymers of the invention form films which are relatively high molecular weight charge transport compounds which are capable of forming films. The films can be prepared using relatively small amounts of polymer while still maintaining the desirable properties of transporting positive charges. The processes disclosed herein provide efficient means of preparing the disclosed compounds.</p>		

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## POLY(ARYLAMINES) AND FILMS THEREOF

This invention relates to poly(arylamines), methods for the preparation of poly(arylamines) and films thereof. The films of the poly(arylamines) are useful as charge transport layers in light-emitting diodes.

5           Triarylamines, as evidenced by their low oxidation potentials, are easily oxidized to the corresponding radical cations. The cations are equally easily reduced to the neutral starting amines. This oxidation/reduction process is reversible and can be repeated many times. For this reason, triarylamines are widely used as charge transport materials, specifically for the transport of holes (positive charges).

10           Charge transport materials are essential to the efficient operation of electrophotographic devices (copying machines and printers) and electroluminescent devices such as light-emitting diodes. In both applications, the triarylamines are used in film form. For electrophotographic applications, a triaryamine and a polymeric binder are dissolved in a suitable solvent and the resulting solution used for coating, see U.S. Patents 5,352,554 and  
15   5,352,834. To obtain a film of useful charge transport properties, the loading of triaryamine in the final formulation must be as high as possible. In low concentrations, the triaryamine will act to trap charge carriers instead of transporting them, D. M. Pai, J. F. Yanus, M. Stolka, J. Phys. Chem., Vol. 88, p. 4714 (1984). If the triaryamine compound separates out from the polymer binder or crystallizes into a fine dispersion of crystals in the polymer binder, the film  
20   can no longer serve its intended purpose.

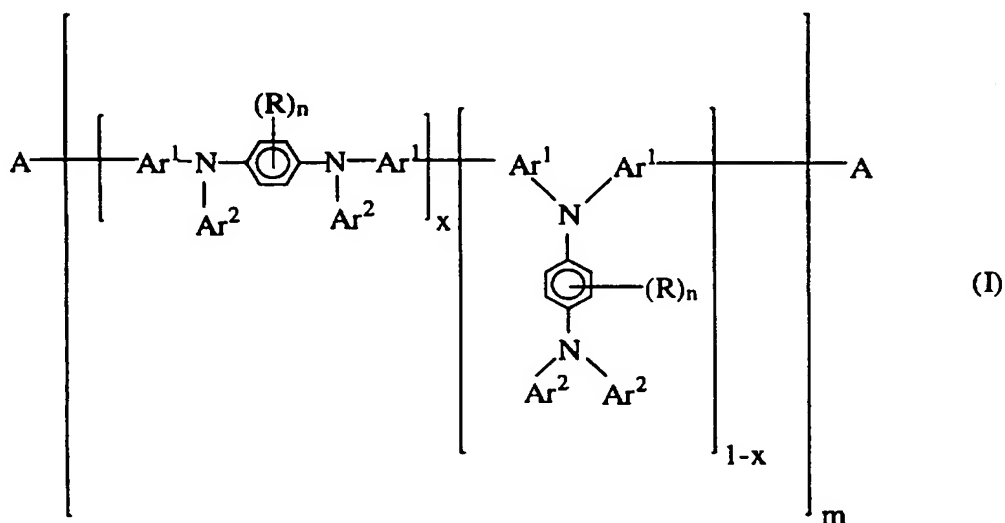
          Organic electroluminescent devices are typically constructed by sandwiching an organic film or a stack of organic films between an anode and a cathode such that when voltage is applied, holes and electrons are injected and transported into the device. The combination of holes and electrons within the organic layer leads to excitons which can  
25   undergo radiative decay to the ground state, emitting the excitation energy in the form of light. For the light to be seen, it is necessary that one of the electrodes be transparent. A major improvement in device efficiency was achieved when a film of a triaryamine was deposited by conventional vapor-phase deposition between the emitting film and the anode, see C. W. Tang, S. A. Van Slyke, Appl. Phys. Lett., Vol. 51, p. 913 (1987), and U.S. Patent  
30   4,539,507. One of the problems associated with devices of this type is the tendency of the organic films to crystallize due to the heat evolved during operation, see C. Adachi, T. Tsutsui, S. Saito, Appl. Phys. Lett., Vol. 56, p. 799 (1990). Contacts between organic layers

and electrodes may be destroyed by crystallization, leading to device failure, see J. Kido, M. Kohda, Appl. Phys. Lett., Vol. 61, p. 761 (1992).

Copolymers consisting of aromatic amide and triarylamine groups have been taught as hole-transporting layers in electroluminescent devices, see Japanese Patent 0531163-A. These copolymers are less desirable for use in electroluminescent devices as the concentration of the active triarylamine groups are depressed by the presence of the amide comonomer.

What is needed are relatively high molecular weight charge transport compounds which are capable of forming films. What is needed are films which can be prepared using relatively small amounts of polymer while still maintaining the desirable properties of transporting positive charges. What is also needed are polymeric light-emitting diode devices prepared from such films. What is also needed are processes for the preparation of such compounds.

The invention is a poly(arylamine) composition comprising one or more compounds corresponding to Formula (I):



wherein:

R is independently in each occurrence a C<sub>1-24</sub> hydrocarbyl, C<sub>1-24</sub> hydrocarbyloxy, C<sub>1-24</sub> hydrocarbylthiooxy, or C<sub>1-24</sub> hydrocarbylcarboxyl;

Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are independently in each occurrence a C<sub>6-18</sub> aryl moiety optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1-24</sub> hydrocarbyl, C<sub>1-24</sub> hydrocarbyloxy, C<sub>1-24</sub> hydrocarbylthiooxy, or C<sub>1-24</sub> hydrocarbylcarboxyl;

A is independently in each occurrence hydrogen or a halogen;

5 x is independently in each occurrence a positive number from 0 to 1;

n is independently in each occurrence a whole number of from 0 to 4; and

m is a number of from 5 to 1000.

The invention further relates to films prepared from such poly(arylamines), as well as electrophotographic devices and electroluminescent devices containing such films, 10 such as polymeric light-emitting diodes.

The invention also relates to processes for the preparation of poly(arylamines). One such process comprises contacting one or more monomers such as a dihalogenated tetraaryl-1,2-phenylenediamine with a catalytic amount of a divalent nickel salt, at least a stoichiometric amount of a material capable of reducing the divalent nickel ion to the zero 15 valent state, a material capable of acting as a ligand and an amount of a compound capable of accelerating the reaction in a polar solvent, and an optional co-solvent comprising an aromatic hydrocarbon or ether, under conditions such that one or more poly(arylamines) are prepared.

The polymers of the invention form films which are relatively high molecular 20 weight charge transport compounds which are capable of forming films. The films can be prepared using relatively small amounts of polymer while still maintaining the desirable properties of transporting positive charges. The processes disclosed herein provide efficient means of preparing the disclosed compounds. These and other advantages of the invention will be apparent from the description which follows.

25 Preferably, R is independently in each occurrence a C<sub>1-12</sub> hydrocarbyl, C<sub>1-12</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-12</sub> thioalkoxy, C<sub>1-12</sub> aryloxy, C<sub>1-12</sub> thioaryloxy moiety or a C<sub>1-12</sub> hydrocarbyl moiety which is optionally substituted with a C<sub>1-12</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-12</sub> thioalkoxy, C<sub>1-12</sub> aryloxy, and C<sub>1-12</sub> thioaryloxy moiety. More preferably, R is independently in each occurrence a C<sub>1-5</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-5</sub> thioalkoxy or a C<sub>1-6</sub> hydrocarbyl. Most preferably, R is independently in each 30 occurrence methyl or methoxy;

Preferably, Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are independently in each occurrence a C<sub>6-18</sub> aromatic radical optionally substituted with C<sub>1-12</sub> hydrocarbyl, C<sub>1-12</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-12</sub> thioalkoxy, C<sub>1-12</sub> aryloxy,

and C<sub>1-12</sub> thioaryloxy moieties. More preferably, Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are independently in each occurrence a phenyl, naphthyl or biphenyl group, optionally substituted with C<sub>1-5</sub> alkoxy or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl. Even more preferably, Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are independently in each occurrence derived from anisole, methoxynaphthalene, methoxybiphenyl, phenyl or toluene. Most preferably, Ar<sup>1</sup> is phenyl and Ar<sup>2</sup> is independently in each occurrence 4-methoxyphenyl or phenyl.

Preferably, A is independently in each occurrence hydrogen, chlorine, or bromine.

Preferably, n is a number of 0 or 1. More preferably, n is 0.

Preferably, m is a number of from 5 to 500. More preferably, m is a number of from 5 to 100.

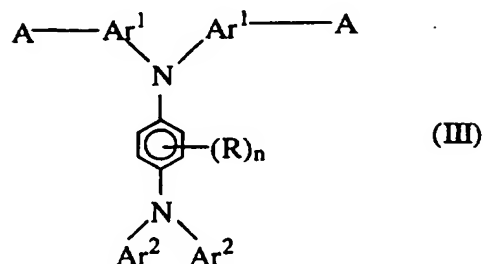
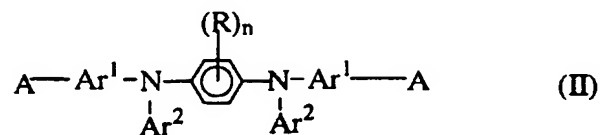
The poly(arylamines) of the invention demonstrate strong photoluminescence in dilute solutions or in the solid state. When such materials are exposed to light of a wavelength of 300 to 700 nanometers, the materials emit light of wavelengths in the region of 400 to 800 nanometers. More preferably, such materials absorb light of wavelengths of from 300 to 400 nanometers and emit light of wavelengths in the region of 400 to 650 nanometers. The poly(arylamines) of the invention are readily soluble in common organic solvents. They are processable into thin films or coatings by conventional techniques. The poly(arylamines) of the invention preferably have oxidation potentials of +0.1 volt or greater, more preferably +0.4 volt or greater and preferably +1.0 volt or less, more preferably +0.7 volt or less.

The poly(arylamines) of this invention preferably have a weight average molecular weight of 250 Daltons or greater, more preferably 500 Daltons or greater, even more preferably 1,000 Daltons or greater; preferably 1,000,000 Daltons or less, more preferably 500,000 Daltons or less and most preferably 50,000 Daltons or less. Molecular weights are determined according to gel permeation chromatography using polystyrene standards.

Preferably, the poly(arylamines) demonstrate a polydispersity ( $M_w/M_n$ ) of 5 or less, more preferably 4 or less, even more preferably 3 or less and most preferably 2.5 or less.

The monomers useful in the preparation of the poly(arylamines) preferably comprise two amino moieties wherein each amino moiety is bound to three aryl moieties wherein two halo moieties are optionally bound to the monomers. Preferably, the poly(arylamines) comprise from 5 to 1000 of the monomers. Preferably, the monomers

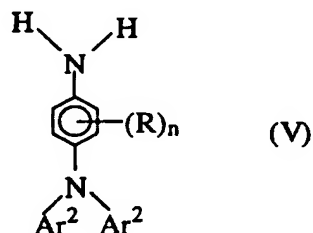
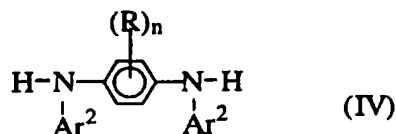
useful in the preparation of the poly(arylamines) of this invention are illustrated in Formulae (II) and (III):



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wherein A, Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, R and n are as previously defined. A preferred monomer is dihalogenated N,N,N',N'-tetraaryl-1,4-phenylenediamine. Such halogenated monomers may be prepared, for example, by contacting one or more diaryldiamines with a haloaromatic compound under reaction conditions sufficient to form the corresponding monomer of Formula (II) or (III). Diaryldiamines useful for this purpose are shown in Formulae (IV) and (V):

10



15

wherein A, Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, R and n are as previously defined. Such diaryldiamines may be compounds such as N,N'-diaryl-1,4-phenylenediamine or N,N-diaryl-1,4-phenylenediamine.

The diaryldiamines are contacted with a haloaromatic compound under conditions such that one or more monomers are prepared. Preferably, the contacting of the diaryldiamines with a haloaromatic compound is performed according to the procedures of

Gauthier and Frechet in Synthesis, p. 383 (1987) or according to the procedures of Guram, Rennels and Buchwald, Angewandte Chemie International Edition in English, Vol. 34, p. 1348 (1995). The diaryldiamines and haloaromatic compounds are contacted and heated in the presence of copper powder and potassium carbonate or the contacting is performed in the presence of sodium t-butoxide and a catalyst comprising a palladium compound and tri-o-tolylphosphine. Preferably, if copper powder and potassium carbonate are used as starting materials, an iodoaromatic compound may be used. Preferably, if sodium t-butoxide and a catalyst comprising a palladium compound and tri-o-tolylphosphine are used as starting materials, a bromoaromatic compound may be used.

The haloaromatic compound includes compounds of Formula (VI):



wherein A and B are independently in each occurrence hydrogen or a halogen and  $Ar^1$  is as previously defined. Preferably, A is individually in each occurrence hydrogen, chlorine or bromine and B is individually in each occurrence bromine or iodine. The amount of haloaromatic compound used is enough to fully substitute the amine nitrogen atoms of the diaryldiamine present in the reactant mixture. Preferably, the diaryldiamines are contacted with a haloaromatic compound in a mole ratio of 1:10 or less, more preferably in a ratio of 1:5 or less and even more preferably in a ratio of 1:3 or less.

The reactants to prepare the monomers are heated to a temperature at which the reaction proceeds at a rate sufficient to form the monomers. Preferably, the reaction temperature is 100°C or greater, more preferably 120°C or greater and even more preferably 150°C or greater. Preferably, the reaction temperature is 300°C or less, more preferably 250°C or less and even more preferably 200°C or less. The reaction time is dependent upon the reaction temperature, the amount of catalyst and the concentration of the reactants. Reaction times are preferably 5 hours or greater, more preferably 10 hours or greater and even more preferably 20 hours or greater. Reaction times are 50 hours or less, more preferably 40 hours or less and most preferably 30 hours or less.

The amount of solvent used in this process can vary over a wide range. Generally, it is desirable to use as little solvent as possible. Preferably, 1 liter of solvent per mole of diaryldiamines or less is used, more preferably 0.5 liter or less is used, and most preferably 0.1 liter or less is used. The lower limit on amount of solvent used is determined by practicality, that is, handleability of the solution and solubility of the reactants and products in the solvent.



The poly(arylamines) of the invention may be prepared by a halide coupling reaction (hereinafter "polymerization reaction") carried out in the presence of a catalytic amount of a divalent nickel salt, at least a stoichiometric amount of zinc powder, a trisubstituted phosphine and an amount of a compound capable of accelerating the coupling reaction in a polar solvent and an optional co-solvent comprising an aromatic hydrocarbon or ether. The nickel (zero valent) catalyst is prepared *in situ* by contacting a divalent nickel salt with a reducing agent in the presence of a material capable of acting as a ligand and, optionally, a material capable of accelerating the reactions.

In a preferred embodiment, the poly(arylamines) of the invention are prepared by contacting the monomers in the presence of a nickel catalyst according to the procedures of Colon et al., described in Journal of Polymer Science. Part A. Polymer Chemistry Edition, Vol. 28, p. 367 (1990) and Colon et al., Journal of Organic Chemistry, Vol. 51, p. 2627 (1986).

The polymerization reaction is preferably carried out in a polar solvent, preferably dimethylformamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide, N-cyclohexylpyrrolidinone or N-methylpyrrolidinone. Up to 50 volume percent of a non-amide co-solvent can be used. Preferable co-solvents are aromatic hydrocarbons and ethers, for instance, tetrahydrofuran. The process is preferably conducted in the absence of oxygen and moisture, as the presence of oxygen is detrimental to the catalyst and the presence of a significant amount of water leads to premature termination of the process. More preferably, the reaction is performed under an inert atmosphere such as nitrogen or argon.

The catalyst is preferably formed from a divalent nickel salt. The nickel salt may be any nickel salt which can be converted to the zero valent state under reaction conditions. Preferable nickel salts are the nickel halides, with nickel chloride and nickel bromide most preferred. The divalent nickel salt is present in an amount of 0.01 mole percent or greater, more preferably 0.1 mole percent or greater and most preferably 1.0 mole percent or greater, based on the amount of monomer present. The amount of divalent nickel salt present is preferably 30 mole percent or less, more preferably 15 mole percent or less, based on the amount of monomer present.

The nickel-catalyzed polymerization reaction is performed in the presence of a material capable of reducing the divalent nickel ion to the zero valent state. Suitable material includes any metal which is more easily oxidized than nickel. Preferable metals include zinc, magnesium, calcium and lithium. The preferred reducing agent is zinc in the powder form.

At least stoichiometric amounts of reducing agent based on the amount of nickel is required to maintain the nickel species in the zero valent state throughout the reaction. Preferably, the reducing agent is present in an amount of 150 mole percent or greater, more preferably 200 mole percent or greater, and most preferably 250 mole percent or greater, based on the amount of monomer is used. Preferably, the reducing agent is present in an amount of 500 mole percent or less, more preferably 400 mole percent or less and most preferably 300 mole percent or less, based on the amount of monomer.

The polymerization reaction is performed in the presence of a material capable of acting as a ligand. Preferred ligands include trihydrocarbylphosphines. More preferred ligands are triaryl or trialkylphosphines, with triphenylphosphines being the most preferred. The compound capable of acting as a ligand is present in an amount of from 10 mole percent or greater, more preferably 20 mole percent or greater, based on the amount of monomer. The compound capable of acting as a ligand is preferably present in an amount of 100 mole percent or less, more preferably 50 mole percent or less, and most preferably 40 mole percent or less, based on the amount of monomer.

The polymerization reaction can be performed at any temperature at which the reaction proceeds at a reasonable rate. Preferably, the reaction is performed at a temperature of 25°C or greater, more preferably 50°C or greater, and most preferably 70°C or greater. Below 25°C, the rate of reaction is unacceptably low. Preferably, the reaction is performed at a temperature of 200°C or less, more preferably 150°C or less, and most preferably 125°C or less. Temperatures substantially higher than 200°C can lead to degradation of the catalyst. The reaction time is dependent upon the reaction temperature, the amount of catalyst and the concentration of the reactants. Reaction times are preferably 1 hour or greater and more preferably 10 hours or greater. Reaction times are 100 hours or less, more preferably 72 hours or less and most preferably 48 hours or less. The amount of solvent used in this process can vary over a wide range. Generally, it is desirable to use as little solvent as possible. Preferably, 10 liters of solvent per mole of monomer or less are used, more preferably 5 liters or less are used, and most preferably 2 liters or less are used. The lower limit on amount of solvent used is determined by practicality, that is, handleability of the solution and solubility of the reactants and products in the solvent.

In another embodiment, the poly(arylamines) of the invention may be prepared by a process disclosed in Ioyda et al., Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan, Vol. 63, p. 80 (1990). Such method is similar to the method described hereinbefore. In particular, the

catalyst is a divalent nickel salt introduced as a nickel halide bis-triphenylphosphine complex. The reaction may be performed in a variety of polar solvents. These solvents can include acetone, dimethylformamide, tetrahydrofuran and acetonitrile. The reaction is accelerated by the addition of 10 mole percent of an organo-soluble iodide such as tetraethylammonium iodide. Such a reaction is performed at a temperature of from 20°C to 100°C for 1 to 24 hours.

In another embodiment, the poly(arylamines) of the invention may be prepared via the process disclosed by Yamamoto, Progress in Polymer Science, Vol. 17, p. 1153 (1992). Such method is similar to the method described hereinbefore. In such process, the monomers are contacted with at least a stoichiometric amount of nickel catalyst in the form of nickel (1,5-cyclooctadiene) complex and at least a stoichiometric amount of 1,5-cyclooctadiene as a ligand in an inert solvent, such as tetrahydrofuran. The reaction is preferably conducted at 70°C or higher for two or more days.

In another embodiment, the poly(arylamines) of the invention may be prepared by the process disclosed in Miyaura et al., Synthetic Communication, Vol. 11, p. 513 (1981), and Wallow et al., American Chemical Society Polymer Preprint, Vol. 34 (1), p. 1009 (1993). In such process, the halogens on the monomers are converted to the corresponding lithio- or Grignard moieties. Such processes are well known in the art, see for example March, Advanced Organic Chemistry, 2d Ed., pp. 408-414 (McGraw-Hill, 1977). The resulting lithio- or Grignard derivatives are reacted with a trialkyl borate to form the corresponding boronic acid: M. Rehalin et al., as disclosed in Makromoleculaire Chemie, Vol. 191, pp. 1991-2003 (1990). The resulting boronic acid derivatives are contacted in the presence of a catalytic amount of tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)-palladium (0) and an aqueous base under conditions such that the poly(arylamines) of the invention are prepared.

The tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)-palladium (0) may be generated *in situ* by the addition of a soluble palladium salt (for instance palladium acetate or palladium chloride) and at least four molar equivalents of triphenylphosphine. The catalyst is present in a sufficient amount to promote the desired reaction and to facilitate a reasonable rate of reaction. Preferably, the catalyst is present in an amount of 0.01 mole percent or greater, more preferably 0.1 mole percent or greater, and most preferably 1.0 mole percent or greater, based on the amount of monomer present. The tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)-palladium (0) is preferably present in an amount of 20 mole percent or less, more preferably 10 mole percent or less, and most preferably 5 mole percent or less, based on the amount of monomer.

The above reactants are contacted in a solvent which does not react with the reactants or deactivate the catalysts. Preferable solvents include aromatic hydrocarbons, lower alkanols, aliphatic ethers and N,N-dialkylamides, with toluene and ethanol being more preferred.

5           The process as disclosed in Miyaura et al. is preferably conducted in the absence of oxygen, as the presence of oxygen is detrimental to the catalyst. More preferably, the reaction is performed under an inert atmosphere such as nitrogen or argon.

10           The above reaction can be performed at any temperature at which the reaction proceeds at a reasonable rate. Preferably, the reaction is performed at a temperature of 50°C or greater, more preferably 70°C or greater, and most preferably 80°C or greater. Below 50°C, the rate of reaction is unacceptably low. Preferably, the reaction is performed at a temperature of 150°C or less, more preferably 130°C or less, and most preferably 100°C or less. Temperatures substantially higher than 150°C can lead to degradation of the catalyst. The reaction time is dependent upon the reaction temperature,  
15           the amount of catalyst and the concentration of the reactants. Reaction times are preferably 10 hours or greater and more preferably 20 hours or greater. Reaction times are 100 hours or less, more preferably 50 hours or less, and most preferably 20 hours or less. The amount of solvent used in this process can vary over a wide range. Generally, it is desirable to use as little solvent as possible. Preferably, 100 liters of solvent per mole of diaryldiamine or less  
20           is used, more preferably 75 liters or less, and most preferably 50 liters or less. The lower limits on amount of solvent used is determined by practicality, that is, handleability of the solution and solubility of the reactants and products in the solvent.

25           The poly(arylamines) resulting from all of the above methods of preparation are recovered according to conventional techniques; preferred techniques include filtration and precipitation using a nonsolvent. The poly(arylamines) are useful in preparing coatings and films.

30           Such coatings and films can be useful as charge transport layers in polymeric light-emitting diodes, in protective coatings for electronic devices and as fluorescent coatings. Polymeric light emitting diode devices contain an electroluminescent substance placed between a pair of electrodes. When electric potential is applied across the electrodes, the electroluminescent substance emits visible light. Typically, one of the electrodes is transparent, permitting the light to shine through. The device contains an anode and a cathode with a hole transport layer and an electron transport layer as the electroluminescent

substance between the anode and cathode. For examples of such devices, see U.S. Patents 4,356,429, 4,539,507, 4,885,211, 5,047,687, 5,059,862 and 5,061,561. The thickness of the coating or film is dependent upon the ultimate use. Generally, such thickness can be from 0.01 to 200 microns. In that embodiment wherein the coating is used as a fluorescent coating, the coating or film thickness is from 50 to 200 microns. In that embodiment where the coatings are used as electronic protective layers, the thickness of the coating can be from 5 to 20 microns. In that embodiment where the coatings are used in a polymeric light-emitting diode, the thickness of the layer formed is 0.05 to 2 microns. The poly(arylamines) form good pinhole- and defect-free films. Such films can be prepared by means well known in the art, including spin-coating, spray-coating, dip-coating and roller-coating. Such coatings are prepared by a process comprising applying a composition to a substrate and exposing the applied composition to conditions such that a film is formed.

In a preferred embodiment, the composition applied to the substrate comprises the poly(arylamines) dissolved in a common organic solvent. Preferred solvents are aliphatic hydrocarbons, chlorinated hydrocarbons, aromatic hydrocarbons, ketones and ethers. It is preferable that such solvents have relatively low polarity. Preferably, the solution contains from 0.5 to 10 weight percent of the poly(arylamine). For thin coatings, it is preferred that the composition contains from 0.5 to 5.0 percent by weight of the poly(di(triarylamine)). This composition is then applied to the appropriate substrate by the desired method. The films are preferably substantially uniform in thickness and substantially free of pinholes.

The following examples are included for illustrative purposes only and do not limit the scope of the claims. Unless otherwise stated, all parts and percentages are by weight.

Glass transition temperatures of polymers were determined by differential scanning calorimetry. Inherent viscosity measurements were conducted at 25°C, 0.5 dL/g. Molecular weights were determined by gel permeation chromatography against polystyrene standards. Cyclic voltammetric analyses were performed with Ag/AgCl as reference; oxidation potentials were determined either with dichloromethane solutions or with polymer films deposited on platinum electrodes.

**Example 1** - Preparation of the monomer N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine (46.3 g, 0.18 mol), 4-iodophenyl-methylether (100.0 g, 0.43 mol), copper bronze powder (28 g, 0.44 mol), potassium carbonate (166 g, 1.2 mol), 18-crown-6 ether (7.9 g, 0.03 mol), and 1,2-dichlorobenzene (400 mL) were added to a reactor equipped with a mechanical stirrer, a nitrogen inlet and a condenser was added. The mixture was heated at 180°C for 90 hours while the water produced by the reaction was removed with a slow flow of nitrogen. After 24 hours, the hot reaction mixture was filtered through a bed and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford dark brown viscous liquid which was percolated through a bed of silica gel with hexane to remove some of the color. Recrystallization twice from acetone afforded 55.7 g (66 percent) of tan-colored crystals of the monomer.

**Example 2** - Preparation of the monomer N,N'-di-(4-bromophenyl)-N,N'-di-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

A solution of N-bromosuccimide (19.0 g, 0.11 mol) and dimethyl formamide (DMF) (150 mL) was added to a stirred solution of N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine (25.0 g, 0.053 mol) in DMF (150 mL). The reaction mixture was added to 1 L of toluene and heated to 60°C. The warm solution was washed with water (4 times with 1000 mL) at 60°C. The toluene solution was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered through a bed of silica gel, then concentrated under reduced pressure. Two recrystallizations of the crude product from toluene/hexane gave tan-colored crystals of the monomer (21.6 g, 65 percent) after drying.

**Example 3** - Polymerization of N,N'-di-(4-bromophenyl)-N,N'-di-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

A polymerization reactor was charged with N,N'-di-(4-bromophenyl)-N,N'-di-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine (6.3 g, 10 mmol), triphenylphosphine (1.35 g, 5 mmol), zinc powder (2.0 g, 30 mmol) and nickel chloride-2,2'-bipyridine complex (NiCl<sub>2</sub>-Bipy) (0.1 g, 0.45 mmol). The reactor was evacuated to about 0.2 mmHg then purged with nitrogen; this cycle was repeated 7 times. To the reactor was added (via syringe) 20 mL of anhydrous dimethyl acetamide (DMAc). The reaction mixture was heated to 80°C with a stirring rate of 250 rpm. After a few minutes the reaction mixture turned from gray to a brownish-red color which became darker with time. After 1 hour, a solid green cake was formed and mixing was difficult. To the reactor was added 25 mL of DMAc and 40 mL of

toluene to dissolve the solid cake. The reaction was stirred at 80°C for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was added to 500 mL of acetone, precipitating out the product. The precipitate was collected and washed with acetone (three times with 150 mL). The precipitate was dissolved in 300 mL of chlorobenzene then filtered through a bed of filter aid.

5 The chlorobenzene solution was washed with 300 mL of aqueous 3N HCl and water (twice with 300 mL). The chlorobenzene mixture was then added to a flask containing 100 mL of water and 50 mL of ethylenediamine. The mixture was stirred at 60°C for 2 hours. The aqueous layer of the chlorobenzene mixture was removed and the toluene layer of the chlorobenzene mixture was washed with water (3 times with 200 mL). The chlorobenzene  
10 mixture was concentrated to a volume of about 50 mL then slowly added to 300 mL of acetone. The polymer was formed as a yellow precipitate. The yellow precipitate was collected, washed with acetone (twice with 200 mL) then dried to afford 4.4 g (94 percent) of a yellow powder. The properties of the polymer are listed in Table I. The polymer of this example is useful for hole transport materials in light-emitting diode devices.

15 **Example 4** - Polymerization of N,N'-di-(4-bromophenyl)-N,N'-di-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

The above example was repeated with N,N'-di-(4-bromophenyl)-N,N'-di-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine (6.3 g, 10 mmol), triphenylphosphine (1.31 g, 50 mmol), zinc powder (2.0 g, 30 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub>-Bipy (0.086 g, 0.3 mmol), and N-methyl-  
20 pyrrolidinone (20 mL). The polymerization was terminated after about 6 hours. The polymer cake was dissolved in toluene (200 mL) and the resulting mixture filtered through a bed to remove the inorganic salts. The filtered toluene solution was reduced to about 50 mL volume and was then poured into about 800 mL of acetone to precipitate the desired polymer. The solid was collected by filtration and dried in a vacuum oven overnight at 60°C to give 3.47 g  
25 of yellow polymer whose inherent viscosity in toluene was 0.08 dL/g. The polymer of this example is useful for hole transport materials in light-emitting diode devices.

**Example 5** - Polymerization of N,N'-di-(4-bromophenyl)-N,N'-di-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

The above example was repeated with N,N'-di-(4-bromophenyl)-N,N'-di-(4-ethoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine (3.15 g, 5 mmol), triphenylphosphine (0.66 g, 25 mol), zinc powder (1.00 g, 15 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub>-Bipy (0.05 g, 0.17 mmol), and N-cyclohexylpyrrolidinone (11 mL). The polymerization was carried out for 25 hours at 90°C and the polymer product (2.0 g, inherent viscosity 0.09 dL/g) was isolated by the same

procedure described above. The polymer of this example is useful for hole transport materials in light-emitting diode devices.

**Example 6** - Preparation of N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

Following the procedure of Example 1, a mixture of N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine (13.0 g, 0.05 mol), 3-iodochlorobenzene (31.0 g, 0.13 mol), copper bronze powder (7.5 g, 0.13 mol), 18-crown-6 (2.40 g 0.09 mol), powdered potassium carbonate (50.14 g, 0.36 mol) and 1,2-dichlorobenzene (120 mL) was heated for 20 hours at 190°C. The hot reaction mixture was filtered through a bed, which was washed with toluene (50 mL). Toluene was removed under vacuum from the combined filtrate and the resulting dark brown oil chromatographed on a silica gel column (5 by 25 cm, 5 percent CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexane as eluant) to give 7.4 g (31 percent) of a light yellow viscous oil which solidified upon standing. Recrystallization from methanol-acetone afforded 4.6 g (19 percent) of monomer product as white flakes (m.p. 124°C to 127°C).

**Example 7** - Preparation of N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

A mixture of palladium acetate (180 mg, 0.8 mmol) and tri-o-tolylphosphine (536 mg, 1.7 mmol) and toluene (40 mL) was stirred at ambient temperature for 30 minutes until a homogeneous yellow solution was formed. N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine (5.2 g, 20 mmol), 3-bromochlorobenzene (9.6 g, 50 mmol), sodium tert-butoxide (5.4 g, 56 mmol) and more toluene (120 mL) is added to the above mixture in a reactor vessel. With a slow purge of nitrogen, the reaction vessel was placed into an oil-bath and the stirred reaction was heated to reflux for 14 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to ambient temperature, treated with hydrochloric acid (6 mL), and filtered through a bed. Removal of the solvent on a rotavapor under reduced pressure afforded a dark brown viscous oil. Flash chromatography on a silica gel column (5 by 25 cm, 10 percent toluene in hexane as eluent) provided a light-yellow oil, which solidified on standing at ambient temperature. Recrystallization from methanol/acetone afforded 7.3 g (76 percent) of product as white flakes (m.p. 125°C to 127°C).

**Example 8** - Polymerization of N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine (1.2 g, 2.5 mmol), triphenylphosphine (327.5 mg, 1.25 mmol), zinc powder (490 mg, 7.5 mmol) and NiCl<sub>2</sub>-Bipy (21.5 mg, 0.075 mmol) were added to a dry reactor. The reactor was evacuated to about 3 mm/Hg and was then filled with nitrogen. This cycle was repeated 5 times. 3.5 mL of N-methylpyrrolidinone was added to the reactor and the reactor was evacuated



and filled with nitrogen 3 times. The reaction mixture was stirred and heated in an oil-bath at 70°C for 20 hours. The polymer cake thus formed was dissolved in hot chlorobenzene (40 mL). The solution was filtered and concentrated to about 10 mL. Acetone (100 mL) was added to the solution to precipitate the polymer as a white powder. Washing with acetone and drying in a vacuum oven at 60°C overnight gave 0.78 g (76 percent) of polymer product. The properties of the polymer are listed in Table I. The polymer of this example is useful for hole transport materials in light-emitting diode devices.

**Example 9 - Polymerization of N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine**

The above Example was repeated at ten times the amounts of all solid reagents. N-Cyclohexyl-pyrrolidinone (13 mL) and N-methylpyrrolidinone (23 mL) were used as the solvent. Polymerization was conducted at 70°C for 8 hours and 90°C for 10 hours. The yield of polymer was 8.7 g (85 percent). The properties of the polymer are listed in Table I. The polymer of this example is useful for hole transport materials in light-emitting diode devices.

**Example 10 - Polymerization of N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine**

Example 8 was repeated with the exception that the solvent was a 1:1 mixture of N-cyclohexyl-pyrrolidinone and N-methylpyrrolidinone (total 4 mL). Polymerization was allowed to proceed for 10 hours at 70°C. The product (910 mg, 88 percent) isolated had an inherent viscosity of 0.13 dL/g in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The polymer of this example is useful for hole transport materials in light-emitting diode devices.

**Example 11 - N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine**

A mixture of palladium acetate (270 mg, 1.2 mmol) and tri-o-tolylphosphine (804 mg, 2.6 mmol) and toluene (20 mL) was stirred at ambient temperature for 30 minutes until a homogeneous yellow solution was formed. To this solution were added N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine (7.8 g, 30 mmol), 4-bromochlorobenzene (18.9 g, 99 mmol), sodium tert-butoxide (8.1 g, 84 mmol) and more toluene (250 mL). With a slow purge of nitrogen, the reaction vessel was placed into an oil bath and the stirred reaction was heated to reflux for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to ambient temperature, treated with hydrochloric acid (9 mL), and filtered through a bed of filtering aid. Removal of the solvent on a rotavapor under reduced pressure afforded a dark brown viscous oil. Flash chromatography on a silica gel column (5 cm by 25 cm, 50 percent benzene/hexane as eluent) provided a light yellow solid. Recrystallization of the benzene/hexane afforded 11.9 g (82 percent) of product as white flakes. HPLC analysis indicated the product was in >99 percent purity.

**Example 12** - N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

A 1 L, three-necked, round-bottomed flask, equipped with an overhead stirrer, a nitrogen inlet and a reflux condenser, was charged with N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine (13.0 g, 0.05 mol), 4-iodochlorobenzene (31.0 g, 0.13 mol), copper bronze powder (12.7 g, 0.20 mol), 18-crown-6 ether (2.6 g, 0.10 mol), powdered potassium carbonate (50.1 g, 0.36 mol) and 1,2-dichlorobenzene (120 mL). With a slow purge of nitrogen through the condenser, the reaction vessel was placed in an oil bath and the stirred reaction was heated at 200°C for 20 hours. The hot reaction mixture was filtered through a bed of filtering aid, which was washed with toluene (50 mL), and the filtrate was concentrated on a rotavapor under reduced pressure. The solvent residue was further removed with a Kugelrohr apparatus to afford a dark brown viscous oil. Flash chromatography on a silica gel column (5 cm by 25 cm, 5 percent CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexane as eluent) afforded 9.6 g of grey-white solid. The crude product was further washed with toluene and acetone to provide 6.1 g (25 percent) of off-white powdered material. The polymer of this example is useful for hole transport materials in light-emitting diode devices.

**Example 13** - Polymerization of N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

To a dry reactor equipped with a mechanical stirrer, nitrogen/vacuum inlet, and a rubber septum, was added N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'-di-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine (12.0 g, 25.0 mmol), triphenylphosphine (3.3 g, 12.6 mmol), zinc powder (4.9 g, 75 mmol), and NiCl<sub>2</sub>-Bipy (0.22 g, 0.75 mmol). The reactor was evacuated to about 3 mmHg and then purged with nitrogen. This cycle was repeated five times. To the reactor was added via syringe 45 mL of N-cyclohexylpyrrolidinone and 27 mL of N-methylpyrrolidinone. The reactor was evacuated and purged with nitrogen another three times. The reaction was heated to 70°C in an oil bath with a stirring rate of 300 rpm. The grey heterogeneous mixture turned gradually to a red-brown liquid which became more and more viscous with time. The stirring was continued at 70°C for 10 hours and at 90°C for 10 hours. At the end of the reaction a dark green-brown viscous material was observed. The crude product was dissolved in hot chlorobenzene (300 mL), filtered through a short alumina column to remove the zinc dust. The filtrate was concentrated on a rotavapor to about 100 mL and the solution was once again passed through an alumina column eluted with THF. The volume of the solution was reduced to about 100 mL and the polymer was precipitated with acetone (500 mL). The product was collected by filtration, washed with acetone and dried in a vacuum oven at 60°C

overnight to give 9.53 g (93 percent) of light yellow powders. The properties of the polymer are listed in Table I. The polymer of this example is useful for hole transport materials in light-emitting diode devices.

#### Example 14 - Electroluminescence device

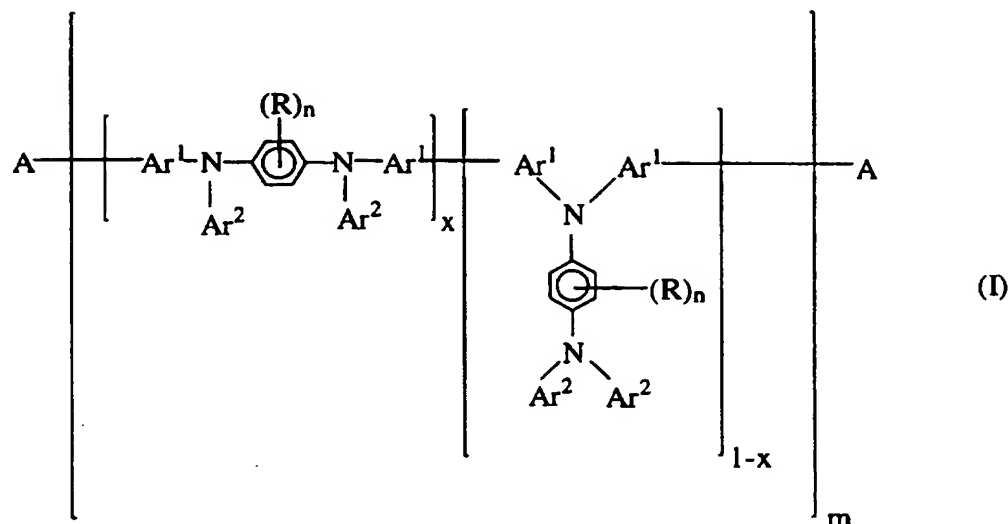
5 An electroluminescent device was fabricated by forming a film (about 80 nm thick) of the polymer of Example 13 by spin coating from a 3 percent solution in chlorobenzene on ITO-glass (20 ohm/square sheet resistance). This film served as the hole transport layer. A 2 percent toluene solution of an emitting polymer, poly(9,9-disubstituted  
10 fluorine-2,7-diyl), was applied on top of the hole transport layer by spin-coating giving a film of about 100 nm in thickness. Calcium metal was then deposited on top of the emitting polymer by thermal evaporation, serving as the cathode. Upon applying forward bias to the device, blue light was observed at about 9 volt. Light output of 130 cd/m<sup>2</sup> was observed at 16 volt, current density of 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>. A similar device without the hole transport layer had a  
15 turn-on voltage of about 11 volt, and light output of about 3 cd/m<sup>2</sup> at 14 volt, current density of 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>. This illustrates the improvement attainable with the hole transport polymer of this invention.

Table I

	<u>Example 3</u>	<u>Example 8</u>	<u>Example 9</u>	<u>Example 13</u>
Inherent Viscosity	0.13 dL/g in CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	0.12 dL/g in CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	0.13 dL/g in THF	0.16 dL/g in THF
M <sub>n</sub>			7200 Daltons	6300 Daltons
M <sub>w</sub>			13700 Daltons	14500 Daltons
Tg		171°C	175°C	222°C
Reversible Oxidation Potentials	film: 0.52, 0.84 v solution: 0.41, 0.86 v	solution: 0.54 v	film: 0.63, 1.00 v solution: 0.52, 0.92 v	film: 0.6111, 0.96 v solution: 0.60, 1.0 v
Blue Fluorescence	solution and film	solution and film	solution and film	solution and film

CLAIMS:

1. A poly(arylamine) composition comprising one or more compounds of Formula (I):



5 wherein:

R is independently in each occurrence a  $C_{1-24}$  hydrocarbyl,  $C_{1-24}$  hydrocarboxy,  $C_{1-24}$  hydrocarbylthiooxy, or  $C_{1-24}$  hydrocarbylcarboxyl;

$Ar^1$  and  $Ar^2$  are independently in each occurrence a  $C_{6-18}$  aryl moiety optionally substituted with a  $C_{1-12}$  hydrocarbyl,  $C_{1-12}$  hydrocarbyloxy,  $C_{1-12}$  hydrocarbylthiooxy, or  $C_{1-12}$  hydrocarbylcarboxyl;

A is independently in each occurrence hydrogen or a halogen;

x is independently in each occurrence a positive number from 0 to 1;

n is independently in each occurrence a whole number of from 0 to 4; and

m is a number of from 5 to 1000.

15 2. A composition according to Claim 1 wherein:

R is independently in each occurrence a  $C_{1-12}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-12}$  thioalkoxy,  $C_{1-12}$  aryloxy, or  $C_{1-12}$  thioaryloxy moiety optionally substituted with  $C_{1-12}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-12}$  thioalkoxy,  $C_{1-12}$  aryloxy, or  $C_{1-12}$  thioaryloxy moieties;

$Ar^1$  and  $Ar^2$  are independently in each occurrence a  $C_6$  to  $C_{18}$  aromatic radical optionally substituted with  $C_{1-12}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-12}$  thioalkoxy,  $C_{1-12}$  aryloxy, or  $C_{1-12}$  thioaryloxy moieties;

A is independently in each occurrence hydrogen, chlorine and bromine; and  
m is a number of from 5 to 500.

3. A composition according to Claim 2 wherein:

R is independently in each occurrence a C<sub>1-5</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-5</sub> thioalkoxy or a  
5 C<sub>1-6</sub> hydrocarbyl;

Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are independently in each occurrence derived from benzene,  
naphthalene or biphenyl, optionally substituted with C<sub>1-5</sub> alkoxy and C<sub>1-6</sub> hydrocarbyl;

n is independently in each occurrence a whole number of 0 or 1; and

m is a number of from 5 to 100.

10 4. A composition according to Claim 3 wherein:

R is independently in each occurrence methyl or methoxy;

Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are independently in each occurrence derived from anisole,  
methoxynaphthalene, benzene or toluene;

and m is a number of from 5 to 100.

15 5. A composition according to Claim 4 wherein:

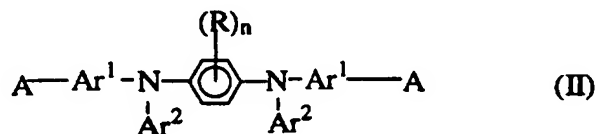
Ar<sup>1</sup> is independently in each occurrence phenylene;

Ar<sup>2</sup> is independently in each occurrence derived from 4-methoxyphenyl or  
benzene;

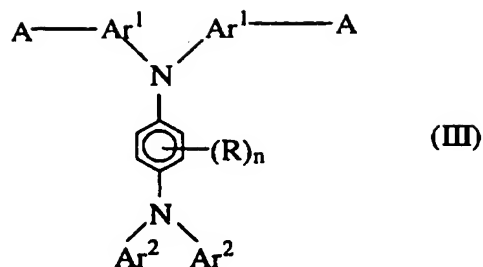
n is independently in each occurrence a whole number of 0; and

20 m is a number of from 5 to 100.

6. A process for the preparation of a composition according to Claim 1 which  
comprises contacting one or more monomers corresponding to one or more of Formulae (II)  
and (III):

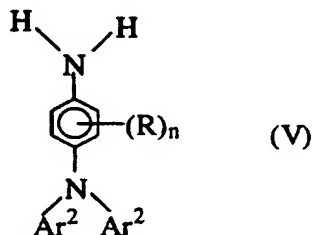
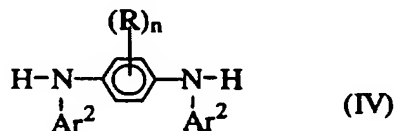


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with a catalytic amount of a divalent nickel salt, at least a stoichiometric amount of a material capable of reducing the divalent nickel ion to the zero valent state and a material capable of acting as a ligand and an amount of a compound capable of accelerating the reaction in a polar solvent and an optional co-solvent comprising an aromatic hydrocarbon or ether under conditions such that a poly(arylamine) according to Claim 1 is prepared.

7. The process of Claim 6 wherein one or more monomers are prepared by contacting a haloaromatic compound with one or more diaryldiamines corresponding to one or more of Formulae (IV) and (V):



under conditions such that compounds of Formula (II) or Formula (III) are formed.

8. The process of Claim 7 wherein the haloaromatic compound comprises compounds of Formula (VI):



wherein A and B are independently in each occurrence a hydrogen or halogen and Ar<sup>1</sup> is independently in each occurrence a C<sub>6-18</sub> aryl moiety optionally substituted with a moiety that does not interfere in the polymerization reaction.

9. The process of Claim 8 wherein A is hydrogen, chlorine or bromine and B is bromine or iodine and Ar' is independently in each occurrence derived from naphthalene, biphenyl, anisole, methoxynaphthalene, methoxybiphenyl, benzene or toluene.

10. The process of Claim 9 wherein one or more compounds of Formula (IV) and (V) are reacted with compounds of Formula (VI): A-Ar'-B in the presence of a catalyst.

11. The process of Claim 10 wherein the catalyst is copper powder or palladium and tri-o-tolylphosphine.

12. The process of Claim 11 wherein the amount of catalyst is 0.1 mole percent to 1000 mole percent relative to the amount of the haloaromatic compound.

13. The process of Claim 6 wherein the divalent nickel salt is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 10 mole percent based on the amount of monomer, the material capable of reducing the divalent nickel ion to the zero valent state is zinc powder and is present in an amount of 10 to 500 mole percent based on the amount of monomer, the material capable of acting as a ligand is triarylphosphine and is present in an amount of 10 to 100 mole percent based on the amount of monomer and the amount of compound capable of accelerating the reaction is present from 10 to 100 mole percent based on the divalent nickel salt.

14. The process of Claim 6 wherein the temperature of the reaction is 50°C to 150°C.

15. A film comprising the composition of Claim 1.

16. A process for the preparation of a film comprising applying a composition according to Claim 1 to a substrate and exposing the applied composition to conditions such that a film is formed.

17. The film of Claim 15 which has a thickness of from 0.01 to 200 microns.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 97/12478

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 6 C08G73/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 C08G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 36 10 649 A (BASF AG) 1 October 1987 see claims 1,2	1-17
A	STROHRIEGL P ET AL: "THE HIGHER HOMOLOGUES OF TRIPHENYLAMINE: MODEL COMPOUNDS FOR POLY(N-PHENYL-1,4-PHENYLENEAMINE)" MAKROMOLEKULARE CHEMIE, MACROMOLECULAR CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS, vol. 193, no. 4, 1 April 1992, pages 909-919, XP000266800	1-17
A	EP 0 662 486 A (ARAKAWA CHEM IND) 12 July 1995 see claim 3	1-17



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 December 1997

Date of mailing of the international search report

09/12/1997

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 97/12478

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